

suspension or dispersion of said ~~interference~~ pigment.

21. The method according to claim 20, wherein said aqueous suspension or dispersion further comprises at least one surface active agent or adhesive.

Sub B1 22. The method according to claim 18, wherein said interference pigment is selected from the group consisting of a mica coated with TiO_2 , mica coated with Fe_2O_3 , mica coated with both TiO_2 and Fe_2O_3 , mica coated with both TiO_2 and graphite and BiOCl .

23. The method according to claim 18, wherein the interference pigment is mica coated with TiO_2 further containing in the coating at least one of graphite and SnO_2 .

24. The method according to claim 18, wherein said insects are selected from the group consisting of aphids, leafhoppers, *Lariomyza Bryoniae*, white flies and thrips.

Sub C 25. A composition for protecting growing plants from insects and from insect-transmitted plant viruses, which comprises at least one interference pigment, together with at least one agriculturally acceptable diluent, carrier or adjuvant, the composition being effective for applying to at least one surface of a growing plant.

Sub C 26. A composition according to claim 25, which is adapted for application to the surfaces of growing plants in the form of a spray or dusting powder.

27. A composition according to claim 26, which is an aqueous suspension or dispersion of said interference pigment.

28. A composition according to claim 27, wherein said aqueous suspension or dispersion further comprises at least one surface active agent or adhesive.